

CLAIMS

1        1. A method for facilitating database management  
2        processes for an enterprise via a communications network,  
3        comprising:

4                extracting part data relating to a part from a data  
5        storage location;

6                retrieving activity data related to said part, said  
7        activity data including:

8                demand data;

9                purchase data; and

10               creation data;

11               evaluating said part data and said activity data;

12               associating a status code with said part data based  
13        upon results of said evaluating; and

14               storing said part data and said status code in said  
15        data storage location, wherein said facilitating said  
16        database management processes is accomplished by a parts  
17        database management software application.

1        2. The method of claim 1, wherein said part data  
2        includes:

3                a part number;

4                a part name; and

5                a part description.

1           3. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said  
2 activity data includes:

3           determining an occurrence of a demand for said part;

4           assessing currency of said demand;

5           quantifying said demand;

6           wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said

7           assessing said currency, and said quantifying said demand

8           causes said parts database management software application

9           to:

10           associate said status code with said part data when a  
11           first condition is met; and

12           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
13           when a second condition is met.

1           4. The method of claim 2, wherein said demand activity  
2           includes forecast data related to said part number.

1           5. The method of claim 2, wherein said demand activity  
2           includes orders received related to said part number.

1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said  
2 activity data includes:

3           determining an occurrence of said purchase activity;  
4           assessing currency of said purchase activity;  
5           quantifying refund activity related to said purchase  
6 activity;  
7 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said  
8 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said refund  
9 activity causes said parts database management software  
10 application to:

11           associate said status code with said part data when a  
12 third condition is met; and

13           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
14 when a fourth condition is met.

1           7. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said  
2 activity data includes:

3           determining a date upon which said part number was  
4 entered into a database;  
5           determining whether said part number is obsolete;  
6           determining whether said part number is end of life;  
7 wherein results of said determining said date, said  
8 determining whether said part number is obsolete, and said  
9 determining whether said part number is end of life causes  
10 said parts database management software application to:  
11           associate said status code with said part data when a  
12 fifth condition is met; and  
13           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
14 when a sixth condition is met.

1           8. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said  
2 activity data includes determining whether said part number  
3 is owned by a group of said enterprise, wherein said results  
4 of said determining causes said parts database management  
5 software application to associate said status code with said  
6 part data.

1           9. The method of claim 1, wherein said results of said  
2 evaluating are reviewed by a council for said part numbers  
3 with said status code.

1           10. The method of claim 1, wherein said status code  
2 includes:  
3           an active status; and  
4           an inactive status.

1           11. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable  
2 computer program code for facilitating database management  
3 processes for an enterprise via a communications network,  
4 the storage medium including instructions for causing a  
5 computer to implement a method, comprising:

6           extracting part data relating to a part from a data  
7 storage location;

8           retrieving activity data related to said part, said  
9 activity data including:

10           demand data;

11           purchase data; and

12           creation data;

13           evaluating said part data and said activity data;

14           associating a status code with said part data based  
15 upon results of said evaluating; and

16           storing said part data and said status code in said  
17 data storage location, wherein said facilitating said  
18 database management processes is accomplished by a parts  
19 database management software application.

1           12. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said part  
2 data includes:  
3           a part number;  
4           a part name; and  
5           a part description.

1           13. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said  
2 evaluating said activity data includes:  
3           determining an occurrence of a demand for said part;  
4           assessing currency of said demand;  
5           quantifying said demand;  
6           wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said  
7           assessing said currency, and said quantifying said demand  
8           causes said parts database management software application  
9           to:  
10           associate said status code with said part data when a  
11           first condition is met; and  
12           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
13           when a second condition is met.

1           14. The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said  
2 demand activity includes forecast data related to said part  
3 number.

1           15. The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said  
2 demand activity includes orders received related to said  
3 part number.

1           16. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said  
2 evaluating said activity data includes:  
3           determining an occurrence of said purchase activity;  
4           assessing currency of said purchase activity;  
5           quantifying refund activity related to said purchase  
6 activity;  
7 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said  
8 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said refund  
9 activity causes said parts database management software  
10 application to:

11           associate said status code with said part data when a  
12 third condition is met; and  
13           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
14 when a fourth condition is met.

1           17. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said  
2 evaluating said activity data includes:

3           determining a date upon which said part number was  
4 entered into a database;

5           determining whether said part number is obsolete;

6           determining whether said part number is end of life;  
7 wherein results of said determining said date, said  
8 determining whether said part number is obsolete, and said  
9 determining whether said part number is end of life causes  
10 said parts database management software application to:

11           associate said status code with said part data when a  
12 fifth condition is met; and

13           perform additional evaluations of said activity data  
14 when a sixth condition is met.

1           18. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said  
2 evaluating said activity data includes determining whether  
3 said part number is owned by a group of said enterprise,  
4 wherein said results of said determining causes said parts  
5 database management software application to associate said  
6 status code with said part data.

1           19. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said  
2 results of said evaluating are reviewed by a council for  
3 said part numbers with said status code.

20. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said status code includes:

- an active status; and
- an inactive status.